

Application No.: 10/089,869  
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**E. Remarks/Arguments:**

**Introduction**

Claims 1 and 2 are pending. Claims 1 and 2 are rejected. Applicant has cancelled claims 1 and 2 and is hereby submitting new claims 3, 4 and 5.

Applicant respectfully submits that the new claims obviate the Examiner's rejections. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

**Section 102 Rejections**

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,617,879 to Kubala. Applicant respectfully traverses.

The invention as presently recited in new independent claim 3 is distinguished from the cited prior art. In the present invention, the sealing washer with the groove and the sealing body is closing the front side of the collet chuck arrangement. In the sealing arrangement according to Kubala there is no sealing washer to close the front side. The front side of housing 34 is closed by the end cap 30, which has no sealing to the outside at all. In addition, the tool shank about which the sealing must be effective is fitted and fixedly held by the collet. Thus, it is not axially movable relative to the sealing washer. In Kubala, in contrast to the present invention the carrier 40 for the non-rotating seal 38 is axially movable. Furthermore, in the present invention, the sealing body is pressed against the side wall of the groove by the coolant in the groove. This is not the case in Kubala and therefore not disclosed therein. In Kubala the O-ring seal 89 is axially moved towards the end wall 99 by shifting the carrier 40. Liquid pressure cannot build up in groove 91 because any liquid leaking through the sliding seat of carrier 40 in the passageway 42 would have lost any pressure. Finally, new claim 4 additionally contains the feature of an open space between the opening of the sealing washer

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and the tool shaft. The function of the gap is to allow coolant to flow freely into the groove and build up pressure therein to press the sealing member against the side wall to achieve and improved sealing effect. In contrast, Kubala discloses a carrier arranged in a sliding seat, which by definition does not allow for an open space. The O-ring seal is effective against any undesired leakage between the seal carrier and the inner wall of the housing. Thus, Kubala does not disclose and fails to teach or suggest the present invention as defined by new independent claim 3.


### Summary

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that new independent claim 3, is patentably distinct from the cited reference, and is thus allowable. Claims 4 and 5, being dependent on independent claim 3 are allowable therewith. Thus, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable action thereon is therefore respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments concerning the above, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number given below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this communication, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 08-2461.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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